



HESSIE MORRAH GARDEN CLUB  
GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

# Hessie's Garden

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

## Please Note

Underlined phrases throughout the newsletter, when clicked on, will take you to the featured website.

## The May Issue

LOOK WHAT'S SPROUTING!

*May Luncheon!*

*Make Sure to RSVP*

*30katymail@gmail.com or text or call Katie 864-275-5690*

SOW BEAUTIFUL

Devotional: *Galatians 6:2*

*Put a Stake in the Ground*

WHAT'S IN THE GARDEN?

*Farm fresh recipe using local and seasonal ingredients*

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

*Checklist for May*

BLOOMS FAR & WIDE

*Post-isolation travel inspiration*

GROUNDSKEEPING

*Tending to HMGC business*



Lady Bird Johnson's favorite flower, the Texas blue bonnet.

**“Where Flowers Bloom, There Blooms Hope.” Lady Bird Johnson**

## NOTE FROM YOUR GROUNDSKEEPERS

I don't like goodbyes, so let's just say see you soon. I want to thank each of you for giving me a reason to write this past year. Researching and reflecting each month for Hessie's Garden gave me the opportunity to mentally "play in the dirt and continue to bloom." There is so much to learn about gardening and so many resources. I am grateful for each of our members and the many wonderful gifts each of you bring to our wonderful garden club. Keep Digging, Keep Blooming - Katie Bolt

## What's In Your Garden?



**Tomato Pie**

Tomatoes are almost in season, and [Swamp Rabbit Café](#) will have more than they know what to do with. There's only one solution: tomato pie. They're filling it with local tomatoes, corn and cheddar because that's what you do when you live in the south. Make it once, and you'll be hooked. Just don't say they didn't warn you.

Don't forget about Swamp Rabbit Café. Their once abandoned building along the Swamp Rabbit Trail is now a thriving food community where you can find: Groceries, a delicious Café, and Bakery. Not to mention an amazing gathering place for cultivating relationships and hosting events.

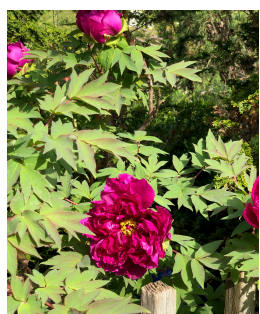
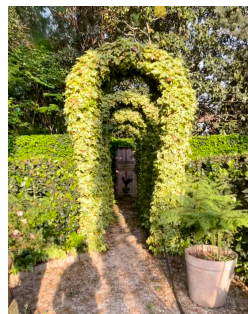
Scroll to [Page 10](#) of newsletter for Swamp rabbit café's Tomato Pie Recipe.

*Note from your Groundskeepers continued...*

Until we meet again, we hope Volume Nine of HESSIE'S Garden will inspire you to remember, "Life is not measured by the breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away." We remain committed to our Club Objectives: to inspire an appreciation for God's world, to provide fellowship among garden club friends, and to improve and beautify our own surroundings.

Respectfully yours,  
Katie Bolt and Katy Glenn Smith

## *From the gardens of Emeritus member Karin Purvis...*



# LOOK WHAT'S SPROUTING!

We are excited to host our annual Spring Luncheon Officer Installation and New Member Welcome!



The event will be funded by HMGC, will follow the most current Covid protocols and attendance is optional. Dues must be up-to-date to attend. If you DID NOT receive your invitation in the mail please please text or call Katie to attend, 864-275-5690.

## DEVOTIONAL

### Put a Stake in the Ground | *Galatians 6:2*



**Bear one another's burdens,  
and so fill the law of Christ**  
*Galatians 6:2*



Some plants – like tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, hollyhocks, delphiniums, gladiolus – need extra support in order to thrive. Their flowers or fruits are usually too heavy for the plant to support, and sometimes that fruit could rot if it touches the soil or scald if not protected by foliage.

The solution to this is staking. A branch, a length of bamboo, or even a store-bought stake will work. Gardeners simply take a thin strip of cloth and, at intervals, tie the plant to the stake. Whatever staking system is used, the function is the same: provide extra support to the plant when its blooms and fruit are more than the plant itself can bear.

Sometimes we try to support more people and problems than we can bear on our own. The burdens of life can seem impossible for us to manage. And that's when we can take the idea of staking out of the garden into our friendships: we can be the stake, so the friend who has stumbled can get to their feet again. It is our duty as believers to help bear one another's burdens (Gal. 6:2). When someone staggers, we help steady the load. If she is straining, we help bear the burden. And if she stumbles, we lift her up. Helping fellow believers carry the weight of their worldly troubles is one of the chief practical duties of every Christian.

When we offer our time, our listening ear, and our prayers, we can support these hurting friends whom God loves the same way that a stake supports a plant in the garden. When we willingly bind ourselves to this person for her sake, her burdens will no longer be as heavy. In fact, those burdens become purposeful – refining character, strengthening faith, and eventually providing an avenue of ministry to someone walking a similar path.

Who in your world needs staking today? Reach out to her; invite her to join you for coffee or lunch. And ask the Lord to equip you to be a strong stake for this person whose burdens are heavy.

# How Does Your Garden Grow?

---

## May Checklist

---

### Care for Climbing Roses

- Prune** After climbing roses finish flowering, prune canes back to 4 to 5 feet long. It's also an ideal time to train new growth to wrap around supports. You'll be rewarded with more flowers!
- Inspect for Disease** Keep an eye on rose bushes for powdery mildew and black spot symptoms. Treat infected plants with a fungicide.
- To help control these diseases, water roses early in the day. Delivering water directly to soil -- instead of overhead watering that wets foliage -- is ideal.
- Also, be sure to gather any fallen rose leaves. Don't compost infected leaves; throw them in the trash to prevent disease from spreading.

### Planting & Digging:

- Growing Herbs.** You don't need a [formal herb garden](#) to enjoy the scents, flavors, and beauty of herbs. Incorporate herbs into existing planting areas.
- Dill and fennel, for example, add a fine, airy texture to vegetable gardens and flower borders. Their flowers beckon beneficial insects. If you permit plants to set seed, volunteer seedlings will emerge next year.
- Or, use herbs as an edging in your landscape. 'Spicy Globe' or 'Boxwood' basil, for instance, or parsley form an ideal edging for a formal planting; use chives or tricolor sage for a playful touch and change in texture. Tuck thyme at the front of the border or along a rock wall.
- Be sure to include Mediterranean herbs -- rosemary, thyme, and lavender -- in unglazed terracotta pots. The porous pots keep roots on the dry side.
- If you love cilantro, plant a new crop of seeds every couple of weeks throughout the summer. This plant doesn't last long in summer heat -- so by replanting, you'll always have a fresh crop.
- Garden Tip:** The more you pick herbs, the more you'll have to harvest. Plan ahead for meals and gather herbs early in the morning when flavors are strongest. Stash stems in water until cooking time.

### Growing Vegetables:

- Across the entire South, all warm-season vegetables should be in the ground this month: tomato, pepper, okra, eggplant, squash, melon, corn, and cucumbers. Plant beans, too! Grow a variety so you have some to eat fresh and others to dry for use later.

### Watering:

- Run your irrigation system before summer heat arrives. Replace any damaged sprinkler heads and inspect water delivery to ensure it's being delivered to planting areas or lawn -- and not pavement.

May Checklist continued...

### All About Tomatoes:

- Dig extra-deep planting holes for tomatoes. Fill the bottom of the hole with nutrient-rich materials. By supplying extra calcium, you'll keep blossom-end rot at bay.
- A handful of bonemeal and three to four crushed eggshells come next. Both are excellent sources of calcium.
- Stake your tomatoes to keep them growing upright throughout the season.
- Garden Tip: Remove bottom leaves from tomato stems and bury the lower stem. Roots will generate along the buried stem. If you can't dig a deep hole, dig a trench, and lay the seedling in the planting hole on its side, arranging the leafy top where you want the plant to be above ground.

### Camellias:

- Inspect the underside of camellia leaves for red spider mites and scale. If you spot either, apply horticultural oil.
- Because the plants have shallow root systems, it's important to keep them well watered, especially during hot, dry periods. Adding a 2-inch-deep layer of organic mulch now will help the soil stay moist longer once hot summer weather arrives. (Mulch will also help keep the camellia roots cooler.)
- [Discover top camellia varieties in Plant Encyclopedia.](#)
- [Get tips for stopping other garden pests.](#)

### Put on a Summer Show:

- Plant cannas to add vertical interest to the garden. Try types with colorful foliage -- either the traditional burgundy-leafed cannas, or variegated ones.
- 'Pretoria' canna is a favorite; it unfurls leaves pin-striped with green and creamy-yellow/chartreuse.

## GREEN LINKS

### Helpful Sites and Sources

Please email [HMGC](#) for prayer request or to have a note of condolence sent or call Katie Bolt, 864-275-5690.

To access [HMGC Website](#) please email [HMGC](#) for password.

### [Swamp Rabbit Café](#)

### [Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center](#)

### [Top Garden Magazines](#)

### [Tips for Growing Tomatoes](#)

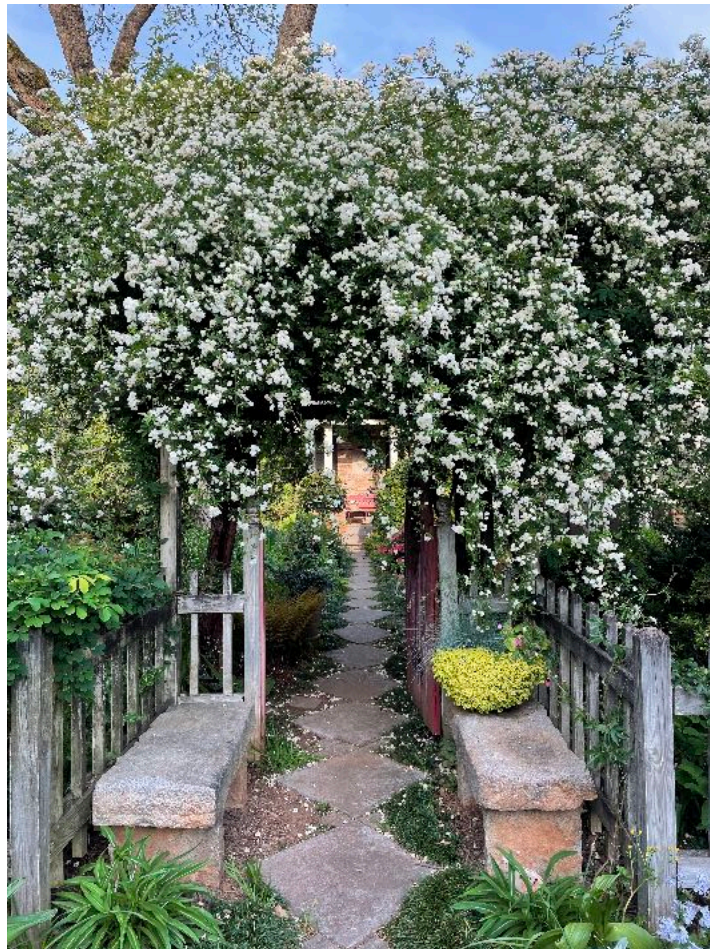
### Virtual Tour: [Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center](#)

May Checklist continued...

- Tropicanna canna features leaves that offer vivid stripes of pink, yellow, red, gold, chartreuse, and green. For a breathtaking show, plant Tropicanna where it will be backlit.
- 'Stuttgart' canna foliage bears striking white blotches along leaf edges. The effect mimics that of variegated ginger, but with more upright growth.

**Plan for Autumn:**

- Although summer is just getting started, take advantage of good planting weather and ensure your garden looks as great in autumn as it does now.
- Add fall-peaking plants to garden beds, including Mexican bush sage, asters, boltonia, Japanese anemone, and helenium or consider ornamental grasses such as pampas grass, 'Morning Light' miscanthus, sea oats, pink muhly grass, switchgrass, and sedge species.



*Gardens of Karin Purvis*

**Sources:**

Sources: Clemson University Extension Service

Robert Polomski; Month-by-Month Gardening in the Carolinas Francis Worthington, The Piedmont Gardener; [Better Homes and Gardens](#)



## BLOOMS FAR & WIDE

*Inspiration for post-isolation travel*

### Visit: Austin Texas

Discover [Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center](#)

Lady Bird Johnson, born Claudia Alta Taylor, started her life as a small-town girl but would go on to leave a towering legacy both as a First

Lady of the United States and as the First Lady of nature in Austin, Texas.

Born in 1912 and raised in tiny little Karnack, Texas, Lady Bird Johnson found herself on her way to Austin after high school in 1930 to attend the University of Texas at Austin to pursue a bachelor's degree. (Today the LBJ Library is on UT's campus.) According to her biography, as the plane was touching down in Austin Lady Bird saw a gorgeous field of [bluebonnet flowers](#) and fell in love with the landscape and nature of the city, resolving to live the rest of her life there. Of course, life has a funny way of changing one's plans. While in Austin, Lady Bird eventually met and married Lyndon Baines Johnson. Lady Bird accompanied LBJ to Washington, D.C. for his congressional office terms and eventually into the White House when Johnson became the 36th President of the United States. Even while Lyndon B. Johnson was practicing politics, Mrs. Johnson never lost her passion for nature and beautification. She launched the Highway Beautification Act and the First Lady's Committee for a More Beautiful Capital.

After President Johnson left office, the couple came back to Texas, where Lady Bird already had a head start on plans for beautification projects in Austin. Lady Bird spearheaded efforts to make Town Lake in downtown Austin more attractive with lush greenery, flowers and flowering plants, and even a gazebo and fountain. Her work on Town Lake was a massive success. To this day, the body of water is an incredibly popular attraction for locals and tourists to canoe and paddleboard on. After Lady Bird Johnson's death in 2007 the lake was renamed Lady Bird Lake.

The former First Lady kept right on with her preservation and conservation work. She was also responsible for the creation of the National Wildflower Research Center, located (of course) in Southwest Austin. Today it's known as the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center and is a great society dedicated to preserving native plants. It has over 900 species across its 284-acre grounds.

Lady Bird Johnson's ultimate legacy is one of care: She was there to care for Jacqueline Kennedy on Air Force One after her husband's assassination. She cared for people as a nursemaid in World War II. She cared for Texas, the environment and the planet as a whole.



# GROUNDSKEEPING

## Tending to HMGC Business

---

### HMGC Executive Board 2020-2021

HMGC Executive Board 2020-21

Katie Bolt & Katy Glenn Smith - Co-Presidents

Elizabeth Stewart - First Vice-President, Program Chair

Mary Claytor Johnston & Lauren McCrary - Co-Second Vice Presidents, Membership Chair

Marshall Johnson - Recording Secretary

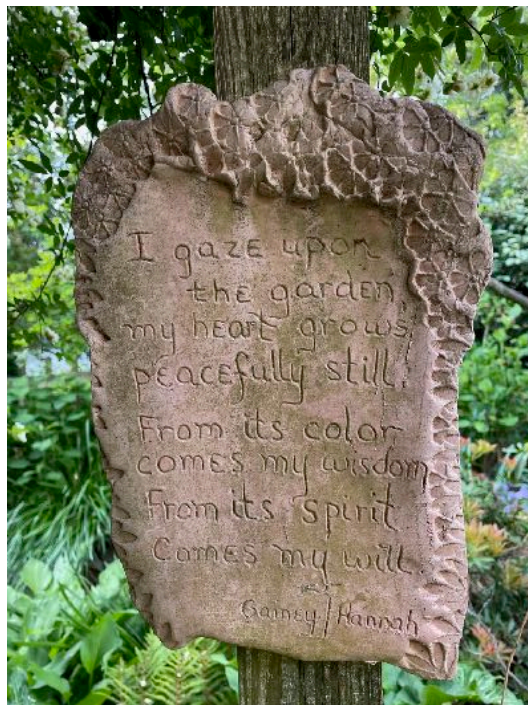
Carrie Moore - Corresponding Secretary

Ann Clarke - Treasurer

Jennifer Eley - Historian

Cece Burnett and Michelle York - Co-Horticulture

**Please Submit Dues: We still have outstanding dues.** \$45 for Associates, \$60 for Active. Please make checks out to HMGC and mail to Ann Clarke at 11 Augusta Court Greenville SC 29605 or send via Venmo, @Ann-Clarke-2



*Gardens of Karin Purvis*

## What's In Your Garden? (continued...)

### Tomato Pie

*from Swamp Rabbit Cafe & Grocery*

*Serves 6-8*

- 1 Swamp Bakery pie crust (leave refrigerated until ready to use)
- 1/3 cup Swamp Kitchen mayonnaise mixed with 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 3/4 pounds heirloom tomatoes (we've got local ones from JBo, Sandy Flat and Tryon Mountain!)
- 1 1/2 cups Silver Queen corn from Thicketty Mountain (from about 3 ears), divided in half
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped Tyger River basil or dill, divided
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped chives, divided
- 1 3/4 cups coarsely grated Ashe County cheddar, divided

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

First things first: peel your tomatoes. Cut an X in bottom of each tomato and blanch in a large pot of boiling water for 10 seconds. With a slotted spoon, immediately transfer to an ice bath. Peel the tomatoes with your hands, then slice crosswise 1/4 inch thick. Using a spoon, remove the seeds then layer your tomato slices on a paper towel, sprinkle with salt and let sit for 30 minutes. Blot with a paper towel to remove excess juices. Arrange half the tomatoes in the pie shell (overlapping) and sprinkle with half the corn, one tablespoon dill or basil, 1/2 tablespoon chives, generous pinch of salt, a pinch of pepper and one cup of the grated cheese. Repeat layering with remaining tomatoes, corn, basil/dill, chives, salt, and pepper. Pour the mayonnaise mixture over the filling and sprinkle with remaining cheese.

Bake for 30-35 minutes until the filling is bubbly and cheese is slightly brown.

\*keep an eye on your pie! If the crust is browning too quickly cover the rim with foil.